



Bois Forte NEWS

VOL. 49 NUMBER 11

Get your flu shot!

With the cold and flu season bearing down on us, make sure you get your flu shot at the Nett Lake Clinic or Vermilion Clinic! To make an appointment in Nett Lake please call 218-757-3650. To make an appointment at the Vermilion Clinic, please call 218-753-2182.

Happy Veterans Day!

Fortune Bay Resort Casino invites all veterans to a complimentary lunch and \$11 in Fortune Play on Tuesday, November 11th from 10 a.m. until 10 p.m. Thank you all for your service!

Warrington hosts Meet and Greets to raise awareness of Domestic Violence

VERMILION SECTOR—

As the new Bois Forte Victim Services Advocate Charity Warrington is taking a proactive approach to reach band members who may be experiencing some type of domestic abuse.

And given that October was National Domestic Violence Awareness month, Warrington held two Meet and Greet sessions to get a better idea of what Bois Forte band members may be going through as it pertains to this troubling social issue—one that has far-reaching consequences, not only for the victim, but family and friends as well.

“The purpose of the meet and greet at the Vermilion Center and in Nett Lake was to offer a new survey to help in the improvement of the Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking and Sexual Assault programming and support services in the community through the Bois Forte Victim Services,” said Warrington, who is a Bois Forte band member and has a B.A. in Native American Studies, B.S. in Psychology, with a year in a master’s program in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Marquette University.

Warrington said that if someone is experiencing do-



RELAXED SETTING!— Bois Forte Victim Services Advocate Charity Warrington, second from the left, took the time for a quick photo at her Meet and Greet session Thursday, October 23rd at the Vermilion Social Center. Pictured, left to right, are: Muriel Deegan, Warrington, April Taylor, Tracy Peters and Chrissy Fairchild.

mestic violence, they should call 9-1-1 if it is an emergency, or they can call the Domestic Abuse hotline (800-223-1041) for support, or the Bois Forte Victim Service at 218-757-3295.

The services Warrington’s department offers include case management, crisis and safety planning, resources, women’s support group (Four

Hills of Healing), healthy relationship building, legal advocacy, self-care help and guidance, and traditional and holistic healing.

Warrington, who wants to make sure she is visible and welcoming in her capacity as an advocate and community member, began each session with a smudge and cleansing.

“Not only for the environ-

ment and the sensitive information being dispersed, but for those who walk through the door, and who answered the survey and shared their thoughts and ideas about a relatively hard topic for some to discuss at times,” said Warrington, who wants to promote prevention and

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Orange Shirt Day Walk/Run draws big crowd!

NETT LAKE— It was a sea of orange outside the Native Hearts Fitness Center as Bois Forte band members showed up in full force Tuesday, September 30th for the annual Orange Shirt Day Walk/Run.

The event is held as part of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation as Native Americans take time to remember and reflect the impact residential schools had, and continue to have, on Indigenous children and their families.

Nearly 70 adults and 42 children from the Nett Lake Elementary School signed up for the event, which had participants walk around the village to show their support for those impacted by residential schools and to hammer home the point that —every child really does matter.

“The walk was organized by Jenna Porter and Michelle Long,” said David “Squidg” Morrison, Jr. who played a key role in the event as well. “Orange Shirt Day is to honor, remember and recognize those that were affected by the boarding school era and how those efforts were passed on through generations—we are finally healing and seeing our culture getting stron-

ger.”

According to the Indigenous Foundation website:

- Orange Shirt Day was started in 2013 by residential school survivor Phyllis Webstad from the Stswecem’c Xgat’tem First Nation. At the age of 6, she was taken away from her family to the St. Joseph’s Mission School. For her first day in school her grandmother bought her a beautiful orange shirt. When she got to the residential “school,” all her belongings, including her new orange shirt were taken away. She never saw that shirt again.

- The Orange Shirt has become a symbol of solidarity with residential school survivors because of how the color orange reminded Phyllis of the experiences she and other Indigenous children had. It is a day to raise awareness of the horrific experiences many Indigenous people had in residential “schools,” as well as the legacy of this system. It is a moment to recognize not only historic harms but also the intergenerational impacts and ongoing violence Indigenous communities continue to face.

- Like the Orange Shirt, the phrase, “Every Child Matters,” has



GETTING SOME ENERGY!—This trio of ladies, including Renee Barto, Roxanne Goggleye and Tracey Dagen, kick back while enjoying a BBQ lunch at the annual Orange Shirt Day Walk/Run.



DOING HER PART— Linda Tibbetts-Barto signs up for the annual Orange Shirt Day Walk/Run while Dave “Squidg” Morrison, Jr. and Michelle Long look on. Not only was a great lunch served and shirts handed out, but attendees also had a chance to win plenty of great door prizes.



HANGING OUT— Brandon Benner, right, snuggles with Corey Howe, left, prior to the start of the annual Orange Shirt Day Walk/Run.

become central as a message of solidarity with survivors. The Every Child Matters movement was started to raise awareness about the Indigenous children who had to go through the residential “school” system and the enduring and intergenerational impacts they faced.

- Every Child Matters was created because many Indigenous children in residential “schools” were made to feel as though they didn’t matter. The inhumane and downright criminal ways in which Indigenous children were treated is inexcusable and we want to send a message to current and future generations of children

that they do matter. Every Child Matters is not only a reminder of the atrocities of the past but also a call to action for all of us to fight for Indigenous rights today and every day, so no Indigenous child feels they don’t matter ever again.

A similar event was held on the Vermilion sector as employees at the RTG showed their support by wearing the orange shirt. Fortune Bay Resort Casino employees donned orange shirts as did Bois Forte Tribal Chairman Carlos Hernandez, who proudly wore his to the Bois Forte Development meeting earlier in the morning.

See Orange Shirt on page 3

Orange Shirt from page 2

"It was important to show my support for this day," said Hernandez. "Our people suffered unimaginable pain, hardships and betrayal at the hands of people who never wanted to acknowledge our way of life, our values, our culture—we must never forget what was done to them."

Those who took part in the walk made their way through the Nett Lake Village in support of those who endured trauma from the residential schools. Following the walk, organizers treated all participants to a delicious BBQ lunch, including hot dogs, chips, and fresh fruit. Bois Forte RTG

Executive Secretary Regina Howe passed out orange shirts to all of the attendees and thanked them for coming out for the event.

"It was a great event and hats off to Squidg, Michelle and anyone else who helped organize it," said former Bois Forte District I Representative Brandon Benner. "It was good to see all the kids there and all the other people in the community. It really brings us all together for a good cause. Little Corey Howe hugged me from out of nowhere and that felt good to be embraced like that. It meant a lot to me."



READY TO GO!— Ashtyn Villebrun, left, Ta'Kodah Beaulieu, center and Ryan Isham, right, get ready to take a walk around the Nett lake Village after signing up for the annual Orange Shirt Day Walk/Run.

Another successful Trunk or Treat!



HAPPY CREW!—Bois Forte's Marissa Rose, second from the right, holding her son, Marley, poses for a quick photo at the Vermilion Sector Trunk or Treat event Wednesday, October 29th. Also pictured, left to right, are: Pete Isham, Isla Rose, and Dusty Rose. Awesome job organizing the event Marissa! Thank you to everyone who came out to support this wonderful community event!



ENJOYING SOME S'MORES!— These were just a handful of dozens of kids who showed up for the Trunk or Treat event, which took place Wednesday, October 29th, in the Vermilion Social Center parking lot.



SAVE THE DATE

Annual Diabetes Awareness Conference

FRIDAY, 14 NOVEMBER
Iron Trail Event Center, Virginia, MN

When: 9:30 AM-3:30 PM
RSVP TO: Melissa Hawk, Julie Skoglund, or David Morrison Jr.
218-757-3650

Lunch by Kunnari's will be provided, door prizes, and sweatshirts for all who attend!!

Transportation provided by Big Woods Transit to and from Nett Lake and Vermilion please call 1-888-757-1540 to reserve your spot

QR Code to Register
for the Event!



Warrington from page 1

protective services as well as ongoing community education. “I want to personally thank all those who participated in the survey for their valued contributions.”

Prior to beginning her new job with Bois Forte, Warrington was a Special Needs Teacher at Oneida Elementary School in Wisconsin and worked at places like Wise Women Gathering Place for Social Justice issues and awareness with youth and curriculum development.

“I moved back to help my community and partake in the social responsibility. I was taught to give back after being educated,” said Warrington, who also helped establish the Vermilion Boys and Girls Club from the Bois Forte Youth Program. “I believe deeply in personal and community healing, with grassroots advocacy in every area I have lived in.”

Warrington, the daughter of Arnold Boney, who credits Jennie Woodenfrog in raising her, has always been deeply connected with the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa and its culture.

“I grew up pow wowing and raised my four kids on the powwow trail. I sew, bead, dance, try to practice a balanced way of life (Bimadiziwin),” said Warrington. “My two younger children represented the community as royalty for Sagiibagaa powwow some years ago, while living in Hibbing.”

The Vermilion Meet and Greet was sparsely attended, but Warrington made the best of it, interacting with attendees and encouraging them to fill out a survey that will help her better understand band members' needs. Those who filled out the survey received a tote bag full of goodies and gifts.

The survey included a variety of questions, including asking what type of abuse, if any, had been experienced (i.e. verbal, physical, emotional, mental, spiritual or financial).

Other questions included the following:

- On a scale of 0 through 10 how safe do you feel in your household if

violence is an issue?

- Has anyone ever told you they are worried about your safety with your partner? Circle one—Yes or no.

- Has your intimate partner, family members, or community members ever made it difficult to take care of kids, work, or other? Circle one—Yes or no.

- What barrier, if any, prevented reporting abuse or seeking help?

- Did you ever feel abused over your sexual orientation? Circle one—Yes or no.

- Where did you find the most support while going through domestic abuse (circle all that apply): family member; community member; advocate; dialing 2-1-1; law enforcement/legal; schools/college; Head Start; outside resources, independently; hospital/clinic; shelter, counselor; or other.

- If you relied on yourself for strength, what was your strength that helped you? Circle all that apply—spirituality; counseling; family; friends; social media; neighbor; confidential; dialing 9-1-1; teacher.

- Have you ever journaled about yourself? Circle one—Yes or no.

- Have you ever witnessed abuse, and have you ever been threatened? Circle one—Yes or no.

- Leaving a relationship, did you have any financial hurdles? Circle one—Yes or no.

- What was your experience while reporting abuse? Circle one—Easy, somewhat hard or hard.

- Did you delay/or are you delaying leaving your abuser due to concerns of escalated violence? Circle one (delay)—Yes or No. Circle one (current delaying)—yes or no.

- Are you familiar with the term gaslighting (i.e. a form of psychological abuse where a person manipulates another into questioning their own sanity, memory, and perception of reality), and in a relationship, have you experienced it? Circle one—Yes or no.

- Would you be interested in attending a support group/gathering? Circle one—Yes or no.

- If you circled yes, what kind of support group/gathering would you be



GOING OVER A HANDOUT— Bois Forte Victim Services Program Manager Charity Warrington, left, goes over a brochure with Muriel Deegan, who is New Moon Housing's Case Manager.

interested in? Circle all that apply: Story sharing group; men's support group; parenting support group; grief/historical trauma support group; grandparent support group/teen support group; cultural crafts/hobby group; women support group (Four Hills of Healing); reading/book exchange group; other.

- Would you help volunteer? Circle one—yes or no.

Warrington encouraged those unable to attend either of her sessions to complete the survey and to reach out to her via email or phone if they wanted to share their results. She emphasized that everything communicated with her would remain confidential.

“This survey is essential in helping me to analyze and develop the support, and services our program has available,” explained Warrington, who added she wants to help break cycles of abuse by engaging community in awareness and education about patterns, behaviors, legal advocacy, and oppressive perpetuated abuses to level out equity in recognition of the impacts of Domestic Violence in families.

One attendee who enjoyed the Vermilion Sector Meet and Greet was Bois Forte New Moon Housing's Case Manager, Muriel Deegan. She said she wanted to use the event to refresh herself with the issue of domestic violence

and how she can play a role in curtailing any problems Bois Forte may face.

“I can let my clients know how they can better identify when they are in a domestic violence relationship and help them take the steps to get out of it,” said Deegan. “I encourage more people to come out to events like these and to show support for all the worthwhile programs Bois Forte offers.”

Warrington said future community meetings will include incorporating the Four Hills of Healing Support Group with presentations and topics such as: The Power Wheel and Control, Spiritual Connections, Healthy and Unhealthy Relationships, Impacts of Violence on children and families, Bystander and Upstander, Abuse Cycles and Anger Stages, Triangular Theory of Love, Historical Trauma, Gaslighting, Cognitive Distortions, Love Languages, and Victim to Survivor.

“I wanted the attendees to take away their importance and valued contribution for community ownership in breaking cycles of abuse,” said Warrington, who thanked everyone for their input in filling out the surveys. “My main focus, of course, is those directly impacted by violence and to support their process of taking back their personal sovereignty.”

Community gathers to pay tribute to the legendary Bill King

ORR— It was fitting for family and friends to gather on a recent Friday afternoon near the now razed Orr High School Gymnasium to celebrate the life of legendary basketball coach Bill King, who passed away at the age of 94 on October 6th.

His niece, Cathy Chavers, commented on how she loved the sounds of the creaky floors as she made her way down the hallway to greet those who came to pay their respects to the beloved King.

These were the same hallways where the sounds of bouncing basketballs and

squeaky shoes once filled the school while King led his Orr Braves basketball team through another intense practice and undoubtedly another successful year on the hardwood floors.

“He taught me about discipline and drive,” said Warren Villebrun, one of several former players who showed up for the celebration. “He was strict, but not authoritative. He expected the best from us, and we all knew that’s what he wanted.”

Villebrun first met King in 1978 when King was leading his talented Orr Braves



GOING BACK IN TIME— Former Orr Braves standouts Tim Olson, left, and Warren Villebrun, right, pose for a quick photo near an old locker with Bill King's niece, Cathy Chavers, at a celebration in the old Orr High School, Friday, October 24th.



STRONG FAMILY TIES— Coach Bill King was blessed with an amazing family. Pictured, left to right, in front of some old Orr Braves memorabilia are his nieces: Janet Autio, Linda Manick, Cathy Chavers, Gayle Schaeftbauer and Patti Svaleson.

to its second state tournament berth. At the time, Villebrun and his teammates formed a strong bond with King, who unfortunately had to step away from the game due to health reasons in the early 1980s.

However, Villebrun knew he and his teammates had not seen the last of his coach and was not overly surprised when King took over for his senior year in 1984.

“He told our class that he always knew we’d make it to state, so he came back and coached us,” recalled Villebrun with an admirable smile.

It wasn’t an easy prediction to make as Barnum had won the state title in 1983 with a 26-0 record and was 24-0 coming into the Region 7A finals before Orr pulled the upset and thus cemented King’s prediction he had made to Villebrun and his teammates about going to state in 1984.

“He had high standards, and he held everybody accountable,” said Villebrun. “A lot of people understood why he was the way he was, but they respected him.

He taught me a lot.”

And it wasn’t just about basketball—it was about life lessons.

“I enjoyed our talks so much,” said Villebrun about running into King at community events in Nett Lake where King was a fixture even into his early 90s. “He was an amazing man, and he will be missed.”

Tim Olson, who was the standout player on Orr’s 1978 state tournament team, was another one of King’s players in attendance at the celebration. He, along with former Orr players, Rick Appleby and Rich Scheuring, stood against a wall while others spoke of the bond they had formed with Coach King over the years.

Even though several decades had passed, Olson fondly talked about how he and his friends still share stories of Coach King at their hunting shack.

“We still talk about him all the time,” said Olson prior to the celebration taking place. “We have the Braves box at our

See King on page 6

King from page 5

camp, the one they used to carry all the uniforms in before we got our own travel bags. That's where we put our towels and stuff in the sauna."

The box is a reminder of how special it was for Olson and countless others to have been blessed to don the Orr Braves uniform with Coach Bill King at the helm. "He was disciplined," said Olson of his mentor. "He treated us fair and gave everybody a chance, but you had to follow his rules, and we all learned from that."

Olson said not everybody cared for that approach, but he reiterated that it is



REMINDER OF A GREAT MAN— This is a book that was placed near the coffee station and cake put out for Bill King's celebration at the old Orr High School Friday, October 24th. King, 94, passed away October 6th, 2025.

all part of life. "When you have rules sometimes you don't like them, but you have to follow them if you want to play or do well in life," said Olson. "That's lost in a lot of ways now and it's sad." Olson was impressed with the way King ran his program while compiling an impressive 405 career wins against 160 losses in 30 years of coaching. "He was a control guy," said Olson. "He controlled the narrative, which I think you had to do in his position with the success he had and the teams he coached had."

Olson said King's knack for controlling the narrative wasn't just on the basketball court.

"He got the downtown believing in it—he had the whole town believing in Orr basketball," said Olson. "It just wasn't coaching—it was the life lessons he taught us all along the way."

Dan Manick, who was welcomed into the King family when he married Bill's niece, Linda, shared some great memories with those gathered. He talked about how there were really no jocks in the Manick family, in part because they lived 45 minutes from town and it would be tough to get to and from practice every day. But that didn't stop him or his brother from going to open gym one day.

"Mr. King saw me play a little bit and he said, 'Boy, you'd be good at football,'" recounted Manick. "Apparently, he wasn't interested in me playing basket-

ball, so I said, 'I guess I'll go out for football.'"

It was King's way to let Manick down easy, so his basketball career never took flight. Even so, that didn't mean the 1977 graduate of Orr High School didn't have his own stories to share about Coach King, who was also a health teacher for the school district.

"I'll never forget it," said Manick, who apologized if his story was too crude to tell. "Mr. King told us, 'There's one thing you never want to do when you are peeing— never sneeze because that's going to end horribly for you.'"

Those gathered roared with laughter, but you could tell this lesson from Mr. King has had a lasting effect on him over 50 years later.

"So, to this day, I will never, I repeat, I will never sneeze when I pee," said Manick. "I don't know what



OLD SCHOOL— Shown here are some old lockers filled with jerseys, letter jackets, hats and other items from the good ol' days when Orr High School was buzzing with activity.

7 GRANDFATHER TEACHINGS/LUNCH TRUTH
NOVEMBER 6, 2025
NETT LAKE EAGLE ROOOM OR VERMILION SOCIAL CENTER
12:00 PM TO 12:45 PM

Offered In-Person
and Virtual Set up through Teams
Everyone is welcome to come learn.

Meeting: ID 297 604 920699 3 Passcode: c9nZ2EY9

This will be the fourth teaching of the seven and will be held the first Thursday of each month.



will happen, but I do not want to find out."

Manick said that King was so much more than just a successful basketball coach or an educator. He stressed that even to this day he could never come to call his former teacher anything other than Mr. King.

"He's always Mr. King to me," said Manick, who shared a humor-

ous story of his grandson, Maverick, jumbling words, meaning visits to see Bill King, became visits to see King Bill. "Really, when you think of Coach King— yes, he's Coach King. But he elevated himself—not just in coaching, but everything that guy did."

Manick closed his tribute by saying that if you ever want to really want to get to know King, just take him on a long road trip to Bemidji to watch a North Woods High School football game.

"Until you did that, you have not been educated," said Manick of the trip he and King took several years ago. "He is so well versed in everything. I was never able to play for Mr. King, but I'll never forget that health class."

Goggleye wins nearly 67% of vote to bypass need for General Election

NETT LAKE— Hard campaigning and the ability to relate to band members paid big dividends for Jeneal Goggleye, who steam rolled to a decisive victory Tuesday, October 28th, to fill out the remaining term of former District I Representative Perry Drift's seat.

Goggleye collected an impressive 66.85% of the vote to easily out-distance former District I Representative Travis Morrison by a 119-47 count. Coming in third was William G. Isham, who collected 11 votes. Since Goggleye collected well over the 50%, plus the one additional vote needed to bypass the General Election, she will be sworn into office at some point in November.

"I am very surprised on how much support that I received," said a humble Goggleye, who didn't get much time to celebrate as she is still serving as the Housing Director for Bois Forte and had to work the next day. "I did not expect it—I am very thankful and appreciative for the support that I have received and also for the trust that Bois Forte band members have placed in me in serving as the District 1 Representative."

Goggleye added she was thankful to band members who reached out leading up to the election to share their thoughts, concerns and for providing words of encouragement.

"I will do my best in representing all Bois Forte band members," said Goggleye.

Goggleye came out of the gates fast as the Bois Forte Tribal Election team oversaw the Minneapolis Urban Office live count shortly after polls closed at 8 p.m. She won this polling place by a 9 to 4 advantage over Morrison. Isham collected one vote.

Next up for the live count was the Duluth Urban Office where Goggleye raced out to a 9-0 mark over both Morrison and Isham, before settling in with a 14-3 win over Morrison. Isham did not receive any votes at this polling place.

Goggleye then carried the Vermillion Sector by an 11-5 margin over Morrison. Isham had zero votes at this polling place as well.

Goggleye continued her strong showing by winning the Nett Lake polling place by a decisive 70-29 count over Morrison. Isham tallied 8 votes at this location.

Goggleye finished the complete sweep by taking home first place honors in the absentee ballot count by a 15-6 margin over Morrison, while Isham received two votes.

Isham said there was nothing differently he would have done to advance to the General Election. He said he was short on time and had no time to organize a better campaign. When asked if he would consider running next April for the other District I seat that will be up for grabs, Isham said he was unsure.

"As long as we have decent representation on council, I see no need to run," said Isham. "I just want Jeneal to stay true to her campaign and also work as a team with no in-fighting, that way our council will run like a well-oiled machine."

Like Isham, Morrison congratulated Goggleye as she prepares to take office in the coming weeks.

"I wish Jeneal the best in her new journey representing us as we move forward in these troubled times," said Morrison, who added that he will not be seeking office next April so he can focus on his mental health and well-being of his family, which now includes caring for young foster kids. "I encourage her to stay positive and believe everything will turn out well!"

In last month's Bois Forte News election preview story, Goggleye said she believed her extensive experience and deep-rooted knowledge uniquely qualified her to earn a seat on the Bois Forte Tribal Council. She pointed out that she has had 40 years of experience, much of it in service-oriented roles with Bois Forte. That included stints as a secretary, food



Jeneal Goggleye

distribution supervisor, acting health director, assistant health director, health and human services director, and emergency rental assistance program supervisor.

"Each of these positions has strengthened my understanding of our community's needs and deepened my commitment to serving our people," said Goggleye at the time.

Comments like these, plus an informational letter she sent out to voters, must have resonated with voters as she will soon be joining the Bois Forte Tribal Council.

"My focus is not looking back, but moving forward," said Goggleye, who has been married to Gerald "Turk" Goggleye for 50 years and has three adult children. "The true measure of whether someone made the "right" choice is how hard I work after being sworn in as the District 1 Represen-

tative."

Goggleye added that she wants to contribute meaningfully by sharing ideas, offering solutions and making thoughtful, informed decisions that serve the best interests of Bois Forte.

"Also, I believe my communication skills, willingness to ask questions, and the courage to speak up when necessary, is what the band members are wanting to see in the District 1 Representative," said Goggleye.

And Goggleye promised those who voted for her made the right choice because she will be accessible and transparent for the Bois Forte band members.

"I will hold myself accountable on delivering measurable results on the issues we all care about. I will communicate openly and honestly with everyone—those who supported me and those who did not," said Goggleye. "Earning your trust is a daily commitment, and I will work every day in office to prove that your faith in me was well-placed... thank you all for taking the time to vote."

Bois Forte Tribal Court is looking for the following individuals:

Defendant	DOB
Adams, Michael Lorne	05/08/1974
Buckanaga, Christopher Charles	06/26/1969
Burns, Riley William	08/25/1995
Butcher, Ryan Allen James	07/29/1986
Deegan, Peter James	08/21/1977
Drift, Darren Jay	11/28/1971
Guenthner Jr., Loren Bruce	10/23/1995
Hartland, David Russell	01/19/1970
Hartland, Rustin Kent Sr.	12/13/1976
Hughes, Dustin James Lee	06/16/1990

If your name is on this list, you have an active warrant for your arrest by our Court. Please contact the Tribal Court to get your criminal matter addressed. Failure to do so could result in your arrest. If you are reading this and know someone on this list, help them to get the information.

Bois Forte Tribal Court now inputs ac-

Defendant	DOB
Isham, John Edward Sr.	04/24/1976
Jenkins, Robert Wayne	06/20/1960
Johnson, Robert Gerald Jr.	01/22/1996
Lightfeather, Gewedinodin	02/23/1985
Littlewolf, Toni Lynn	01/21/1972
Love, Jacque	11/12/1987
Medicine, David Kevin	06/24/1985
Nelson, Thomas Jr.	06/07/1990
Villebrun, Jordan Frank	06/24/1994

tive warrants into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) system.

To address your warrant, call the Tribal Court during business hours Monday- Friday 8:00-4:30 at 218-757-3462 and request to be placed on the docket to address your court matters.

Reality of government shutdown sets in for Bois Forte RTG

NETT LAKE— With no end in sight for the federal government shutdown, the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Government (RTG) is just weeks away from having to incorporate Phase II of its Financial Contingency Plan to deal with dried-up funding.

Phase I went into effect October 20th with marginal impacts, but Phase II, which is scheduled to be deployed November 17th, will really start impacting employees and the way the RTG does business. Couple that with the fact that funding the food assistant program, SNAP, was

expected to end November 1st, it's easy to see why everyone is on pins and needles.

"We are hopeful. Historically, these shutdowns do come to an end, but it is impossible to predict when," said Bois Forte Tribal Chair Carlos Hernandez Thursday morning, October 30th, just a few hours before the Bois Forte News went to press. "What we can control is how we respond, and I am proud of how our staff and community have handled this so far. We are staying calm, focused, and prepared for different scenarios, while doing everything we can to keep our services uninter-

rupted and our people informed."

Here are some the key actions that would go into effect for Bois Forte November 17th if the government shutdown is not resolved:

Phase II – Moderate Reductions: 10-25% cuts and/or 30 to 60 Days in length:

- Reduction in staffing – Senior Management decides and informs Council.
- Defer Capital Projects and Purchases.

- Reduction in hours i.e., from 40 hours to 32 hours.

- Layoffs – but transfer to vacant critical position first, prior to just being sent home to meet staffing needs if qualified.

- Consolidations of positions and/or services considered.

- The Tribal Council will also reduce hours to match staff's reduced hours.

- Reduce the number of sites services are offered.

- Workforce reduction through attrition.

"We are watching things closely, but I want to reassure everyone that we are taking this one step at a time," said Hernandez. "Phase II would only move forward if the shutdown continues and federal funds remain frozen. Right now, our team is monitoring every department daily to make sure essential services are supported. We are planning ahead, but our focus is on keeping operations stable for as long as possible without affecting the services our Band members rely on."

Phase I of the Financial Contingency Plan went into effect October 20th.

Highlights of that plan included:

Phase 1 – Minor: ≤ 10 % cuts and/or 30 days or less

- Hiring Freeze on non-critical vacant positions. Senior Management would be responsible for determining which vacancies are critical and need to be filled. Must have justification available for the determination.

- No new positions in Indirect Cost or Tribal Funds.

- No non-essential business travel and training (if required in grant agreement is essential).

- Strict Overtime policies for non-exempt employees. Must flex time as much as possible.

- Review all upcoming capital projects to ensure funds are available, consider delaying projects with tribal funds.

- Evaluate all open independent con-

tract agreements for penalties.

- Cross Train Grant employees to fill vacancies and staffing needs. Ensure all fees and charges for services are billed and collected, including but not limited to monthly charges for services, Third Party Billings, TERO fees, Reimbursements for services.

- If reducing staff hours – Senior Management decides and informs Council & Human Resources.

"Overall, the rollout has gone smoothly," said Hernandez. "We have had some questions from staff and community members, which is understandable, but most people recognize these steps are precautionary. Our goal from the start has been to be proactive and transparent, and I appreciate how everyone has pulled together to keep things steady."

According to Senior Management, the purpose of this Financial Contingency Plan is to help ensure financial and operational resilience during emergencies, natural disasters, economic downturns, disruptions (such as Federal Government Shutdowns or Freezes), or known/presumed reductions in planned revenue sources and covers financial and operational responses to crises.

In the report released in October, the Senior Management team said the primary goal during the federal government shutdown is maintaining program service continuity, and Senior Management is considering service availability when determining necessary adjustments. Although the Financial Contingency Plan applies to the entire Tribal Government, each department's implementation will vary based on the specific impact of federal funding in their area.

Nationally, the government shutdown has had dire consequences that have not only caused thousands of furloughs or unpaid work for federal employees, but it is also impacting services the federal government provides, which can soon be trickling down to Bois Forte band members.

"To all Bois Forte band members, I want to remind you that our strength has always come from unity and perseverance. We have faced many challenges throughout our history, and each time we have come through stronger because we stood together. This moment is no differ-

See Shutdown page 9



THANK YOU!

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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1790

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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VETERANS DAY APPRECIATION!

VETERANS, COME IN AND GET
**\$11 FORTUNE PLAY, PLUS A
COMPLIMENTARY LUNCH SPECIAL
FROM THE GOLD MINE GRILL!**

**TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 11
10AM - 10PM**

Shutdown from page 9

ent," said Hernandez.

Hernandez added that even in uncertain times, our values, our culture, and our connection to one another guide us forward.

"Every department, every employee, and every band member plays a part in keeping our community strong. Let us continue to support one another, check in on our relatives, and keep our focus on building a brighter, more self-sufficient future for Bois Forte," said Hernandez. "Together, we will move through this with the same strength and heart that our ancestors carried before us. Miigwech for your trust, your patience, and your continued belief in our Nation."

As stated in the Financial Contingency Plan, which can be found in its entirety by visiting www.boisforte.com, updates will be provided every two weeks—or sooner if significant changes occur.

Hernandez said he and other members of the Tribal Council have been in regular communication with our congressional delegation and with federal partners to share how the shutdown affects tribal communities.

"The message has been clear; these political standstills create real impacts at the local level. We are advocating for stability, for honoring treaty and trust obligations, and for Tribal programs to be protected from future shutdowns," said Hernandez. "Bois Forte continues to stand with other Tribal Nations in pushing for that change."

Biindigen Welcome

Sixth Judicial District Public Defender's Office

Bois Forte Tribal Center

5344 Lakeshore Dr Nett Lake (Fish Room)

November 19, 2025 10:00am - 2:00pm

- State Court legal questions answered
- Get help with an Expungement
- Get assistance quashing warrants
- Talk to your Public Defender

Questions?

Call :218-733-1027

daniel.lew@pubdef.state.mn.us



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION!

NATIVE HOOP

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 7PM - 9PM IN THE WOODLANDS BALLROOM
NATIVE AMERICAN HOOP DANCE

WAR BONNET

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14 7PM - 9PM IN THE WOODLANDS BALLROOM
CHAZ WAGNER, AN OJIBWE MUSICIAN FROM NORTHERN MINNESOTA

LEVI PLATERO

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21 7PM - 9PM IN THE WOODLANDS BALLROOM
LEVI PLATERO, A NAVAJO NATION MUSICIAN

INDIGENOUS CELEBRATION!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16 10AM - 2PM

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO SHOP OVER 20 LOCAL VENDORS OFFERING HANDMADE CRAFTS, FOOD, BEADWORK, REGALIA, AND MORE!

SUPAMAN

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28 7PM - 9PM IN THE WOODLANDS BALLROOM
SUPAMAN, OF THE APSAALOOKE NATION IN MONTANA

MIKE BUSTIN'

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28 9PM - 11PM IN THE NORTHSTAR LOUNGE!
MIKE BUSTIN, A SEASONED MIDWEST AND SOUTHEAST MUSICIAN

THE BENNER SHOW LIVE!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 14, & 21 9PM - 11PM IN THE NORTHSTAR LOUNGE!
JOIN BOIS FORTE BAND MEMBER BRANDON BENNER FOR AN EVENING OF COMEDY, TRIVIA, NATIVE TEACHINGS, AND MORE!

ROOM SPECIAL!

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH PLAYERS CLUB MEMBER RATE

SUNDAY - THURSDAY

BOOK A DOUBLE QUEEN ROOM FOR \$65, PREMIUM ROOMS FOR \$75 AND SUITE UPGRADES FOR *\$45

(MUST BE A PLAYERS CLUB MEMBER)

*EXCLUDING THE EXECUTIVE SUITE

ASK ABOUT OUR SPECIAL TRIBAL BAND MEMBER RATE!

FULL PROMOTION DETAILS & HOURS @ FORTUNEBAV.COM



Minute with Millie



Most of the time, I didn't mind the drive. 'Cept for the construction on the road from the bridge over the huge mining pit between Virginia and Eveleth to the bridge that's being replaced over the road between Eveleth and Gilbert. The State, in its legislative wisdom, has installed the bane of my sister's life, a round-a-bout, at the intersection on the north side of Eveleth.

My first inkling of this contraption was a warning one fine Saturday afternoon "Watch for new traffic pattern" blinking on one of the highway signs just south of the "world's tallest" or was it "the world's longest" bridge. Man, I'll have to ask my sister as I forget the billing that was used to promote the building of that bridge.

So, the reality showed me just a few miles later as I was getting ready to hit the Old Highway 53 as per usual. I slammed on my brakes as 'the new traffic pattern" showed before my

very eyes. A brand new purely white concrete round-a-bout which caused a bit of confusion. From there I was so honestly bewildered as I had to readjust in a matter of seconds to the fact that now the ability to maneuver the ending of this particular piece of construction was suddenly switched to the other side of the expressway at the south end of Eveleth.

I was slightly frazzled from the round-a-bout so I misread the lane pattern on the sign for the traffic pattern showing which lane to get to the south side of the expressway that leads one toward cities south of the Range.

Yepper, I smoothly glided my vehicle to a stop at the hastily moved signal lights. The light turned green where-upon I found myself having to head to Gilbert instead of the cities.

After driving to the next available side road which wasn't exactly a turnaround area, I made it back to the signal light and made my way back to the usual route to the next traffic jam known as the construction between Sandstone and Hinckley, an adventure for another day. I'm going to take five at the window and contemplate the vagaries of "Construction Season."

Well, ya know the old joke about there's no summer in Minnesota, it's Construction Season? Well, I sometimes think that's true. For awhile there, I was traveling most every weekend down to the cities for a cultural presentation at the Urban Office.

Update from the Bois Forte Housing Department

Submitted by Millie Holmes

Aaniin. Greetings from the staff here in the Bois Forte Housing Department. Rules and regs are our stock in trade as we manage the various housing programs available here on the rez.

And yes, there was some changes made when the administration of our country changed at the beginning of 2025. Was it only 11 months ago? A lot has happened in those few months. Not the least of which is the current shut down we are in since the end of September. 20 days of shut down means the Housing Department was unable to get the training for the new Rules and Regulations and so those

plans have been put on hold.

Which means we are not flying totally blind as we have the guidance of our Compliance people who have brought various issues to our attention. They've also brought solutions to those problems which we are in the process of implementing as we speak. Well, so to speak. Hmm.

T'any rate, for those of you who are interested, watch for those ubiquitous letters we occasionally have to send out ensuring Bois Forte can continue to operate our all-important housing programs here on the rez. ChiiMiig-witch for your support and cooperation as we navigate the waters of Rules and Regulations.

Attention Bois Forte Band Members:

All RTG offices and clinics will be closed Tuesday, November 11th for Veterans Day, Thursday, November 27th for Thanksgiving and Friday, November 28th for Native American Heritage Day.

Here is the Elder Nutrition Program's menu for the month of November. Services offered include nutritious meals served daily, Monday through Friday at the Nett Lake and Vermilion Community Centers from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with home-delivered meals available to Elders who are unable to get to the ENP sites.

- Nov. 3:** Goulash, Peas, Bread Stick, Fruit
- Nov. 4:** Beef Frito Pie with Corn Chips, Whole Kernel Corn, Tossed Salad
- Nov. 5:** Wild Rice Meatballs, Sweet Potato Fries, Fruit Parfait
- Nov. 6:** Breakfast Hotdish, Potato Wedges or Tots, Muffin, Chef's Choice of Fruit
- Nov. 7:** BBQ Pork Riblette, AuGratin Potatoes, Broccoli Slaw
- Nov. 10:** Roast Beef, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Roasted Root Vegetables, Chef's Choice of Fruit
- Nov. 11:** Holiday
- Nov. 12:** Grilled Chicken Breast, Rice Piloff, Sliced Zucchini, Chef's Choice of Fruit
- Nov. 13:** Stir Fry Chicken/egg roll, Stir Fry Vegetables, Steamed Brown Rice, Chef's Choice of Fruit
- Nov. 14:** Beef/Bison Stew, 7-Grain Bun, Chef's Choice of Fruit
- Nov. 17:** Chicken Pot Pie, Biscuit,

NOVEMBER 2025						
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Steamed Broccoli, Chef's Choice of Fruit

Nov. 18: Roast Pork, Baby Bakers Potatoes, Roasted Butternut Squash, Chef's Choice of Fruit

Nov. 19: Black Bean Burrito Bowl Salsa, Cheese, Sour Cream, Fruit

Nov. 20: Chicken Wild Rice Soup or Hotdish, Garden Salad/Cole Slaw, Chef's Choice of Fruit

Nov. 21: Bison/Beef Meatloaf, Baked Sweet Potato, Brussel Sprouts, Chef's Choice of Fruit

Nov. 24: Garden Vegetable Soup, Chicken Salad Croissant, Fruit

Nov. 25: Breaded Chicken Patty, Poultry Gravy, Mashed Potatoes Peas, Fruit, Dinner Roll

Nov. 26: Turkey Dinner, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Green Bean Hotdish, Stuffing, Pumpkin Pie

Nov. 27: Holiday

Nov. 28: Holiday

Bois Forte Obituaries

William E. King

William E. King of Virginia died on Monday, October 6, 2025. He was born February 22, 1931, in Cloquet, Minnesota.

He is survived by Laurie King of Lakeville, Minnesota; two grandchildren: Tyler and Jayme; and numerous nieces

and nephews and friends.

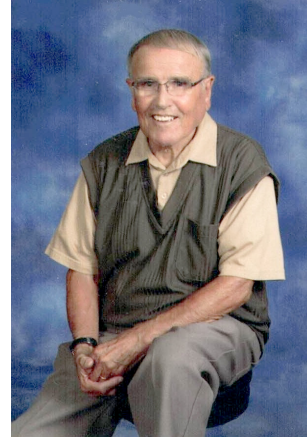
He is preceded in death by his parents, Ideal and Daniel; his wife Zoe, sons: Bradley and Timothy; three sisters: Elaine, Doris and Carol; four brothers: Norman, Donald, Duane, and Herb; and special niece Kay

Zika.

A private family service will be officiated by Jared Bangs at Mlaker Funeral Home with the American Legion Post #480 presenting the flag.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be sent to the American

Cancer Society-Hope Lodge, 2500 4th Ave S., Minneapolis, MN 55404. Online condolences to www.mlakerfuneralhome.com



Chesley Rose Knott

Chesley Rose Knott, age 45, of Nett Lake, MN passed away on Thursday, October 16, 2025, at her home.

Chesley's father taught her to be ambitious, and she tried to live up to his lessons. She liked to go for drives in her car and listen to music; her favor-

ite singer was Selena. She also liked spending time with her friends going to movies and just hanging out.

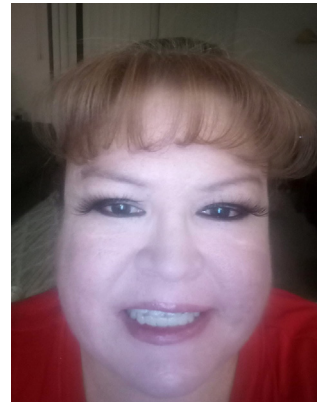
Chesley is preceded in death by an infant sister Crystal Marie Knott; aunt Sharon Wagner; uncles: Joe Gonier and Knute Graue; grandfather,

Marvin Knott; great-grandmother Effie Day.

She is survived by her mother Audry Knott; father Chester Graue; brothers: Myron Graue and Chester Antus; sister Jessica Villebrun; grandmother, Celia Gonier; and uncles: Duane Columbus and

Charlie Gonier Jr.

A wake was held Friday, October 24th at the Bois Forte Government and Services Center. The funeral service was held the next day, Saturday, October 25, 2025, also at the Center.



Kenneth Strong, Jr.

Kenneth Albert Strong, Jr. "Niigaanigaaniimiikaang" age 56 of Tower died Monday, October 13, 2025, in the Cook Hospital. He was born August 28, 1969, at the Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota; the son of Kenneth Sr. and Isabelle Burnside.

Ken was a collector of knives, guns, guitars, jewelry, and tactical gear. He had a great appreciation for clas-

sic country and blues music. Ken was an old soul filled with kindness and humor. He loved to learn and teach others about the Anishinaabe Culture.

Ken is survived by siblings: Kristal Strong of Tower and Donovan (Kari) Strong of Duluth; nephews and nieces: Dylan (Becca) Strong, Ryker (Paige) Strong, Kaitlin (Matthew) Strong, Jake (Kate) Riihiluoma; Grandnieces and nephew;

Aunts: Jan Martin and Wilma Andrews; Best Cousins: Bessie Medicine, Stacey Boshey, Sue Boshey, and Robert Moyer; extended family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; grandparents: Ruth Ann & Albert, Anthony Boney, Alice Burnside, Uncle Ed Strong, Sara Kochie, Gene and Hank Goodsky, Aunt Rose Hedlund, Ruby & John Boshey.

Ken's wake was held Thurs-

day, October 16, 2025 at the Vermilion Wellness Center in Tower. The wake continued until the 10:00 a.m. Service of Tribal Rites on Friday, October 17, 2025. Billy Blackwell was the Spiritual Advisor with Vern Adams as his assistant. Burial took place in the Bois Forte Tower Reservation Cemetery.



Indian Country mourns loss of Chairman Ernie Stevens

Ernie L Stevens Jr., a loving son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, and friend, passed away on Friday, September 26, 2025. He gave his life in service to his family, his Nation, and to Indigenous Peoples everywhere. While Ernie was a citizen of the Oneida Nation in Wisconsin, he was known far beyond his home community for his dedication

to tribal sovereignty, youth advocacy, and community development. To the people who knew him, he was someone who always left an event last because he had to stop and talk to everyone. He enjoyed telling a long-winded story but loved hearing stories from others just as much. No matter where he was, he took time to share how proud he

was of his children, how much he loved his wife, and how he was shaped by the strong women who raised him: most notably, his mother and grandmother. From his earliest years, Ernie carried the teachings of his mother's activism. At just 13 years old, he stood alongside members of the American Indian Movement at Wounded Knee, learning what it

From 1993 to 1999 Ernie served as a councilman for the Oneida Nation Business Committee, where he worked to strengthen economic opportunity and improve services for his community through Self Determination. His leadership quickly extended to the national stage, being nominated and elected as First Vice President for the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) in 1999. In 2000, he was elected Chairman of the Indian Gaming Association (IGA), a position he would hold for 24 years. At the time of his passing he was serving his 13th term, having been reelected in April of 2025. Under his leadership for IGA, Ernest helped guide tribal gaming through unprecedented growth, making tribal government gaming the largest segment of the U.S. gaming industry.

To Indian Country, he was an advocate, mentor, and friend. At home, he was Cheryl's best friend of 47 years, a devoted father, and a loving grandfather. Of all his titles and responsibilities, being Papa was the role he cherished above all others. To his 20 grandchildren, he leaves behind a legacy of endless love: Nyah, Patricia, MarjaRia, Ernest, Tierra, Brandon Jr, Daniel, Sierra, Marley, Markane, Mason, Lucia, Riddek, Orion, Lennon, Isley, Maria Grace, Luka, Abi, and Quade. Whether he was picking on them, giving them bubble gum, or just settling for a fist bump, they endured his teasing with groans and felt his love with each breath that he was near.

He is survived by the love of his life, Cheryl Rose, his 5 children: Brandon (Ashlee), Ernie III (Stephanie), Margaret, Maria, and Lois (Paul), his siblings: Kelly (Shelly), Toni (Doug), Mike (Tommi), Pam, Jennifer, David, Michelle (Tehassi), and Apache (Brian), and his mother, Marjorie.

Ernie Stevens, Jr. was more than a leader; he was family to us all. As we honor his journey, we remember his laughter, his bright presence in every room, his willingness to listen, and his unwavering commitment to our people.

May we continue his work by living out the values he held dear:
Family. Community. Sovereignty.



TRUE WARRIOR — Rest in peace Ernie Stevens — and thank you for being our leader.

meant to fight for his people. In his later years, his grandmother would establish a home near Duck Creek in Oneida for her family. It is here that Ernie would build on this homestead and provide a space for everyone to feel welcome. A homestead built on many stories. Born in Los Angeles, California, and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin for many years, he enjoyed the hustle and bustle of the big city. But he was most fond of the quiet days playing cribbage in his front yard with his wife.

Ernie earned his Associate's Degree from Haskell Indian Junior College in 1983, alongside his wife. Haskell held a special place in his family's story, as his grandmother, Maria Hinton, had also attended when it was still a boarding school. In time, all five of Ernie and Cheryl's children would follow in their footsteps, each attending Haskell and playing basketball there. Over the years, Ernie could often be found in the stands cheering on the games, giving guest lectures, handing out t-shirts, and showing up in every way possible to support the students. He loved Haskell deeply and often spoke of the mentors who believed in him before he believed in himself. Ernie earned his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Mount Senario College in 1996, where he was active on the Indian Student Council.



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Online Volunteer Form

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Laurentian K-6, Eveleth
North Star 3-6, Virginia
Parkview K-2, Virginia